Domestic Child Workers

2417. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that millions of children below the age of twelve years are working as domestic help in all metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, what resolution Government intend to introduce to protect these innocent children from working as domestic help;

(c) whether most of the children working as domestic help are ill-treated, abused and even beaten-up by their maters; and

(d) if so, whether Government intend to form a task force with help of local Police that would check on all children working as domestic help?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL) : (a) to (c) No specific survey has been made in the metropolitan cities regarding number of domestic child labour. Government is committed to the goal of elimination of child labour in all its forms. In pursuance of this objective, Government has issued a Notification on 14.10.1999 prohibiting Government servants from employing children below the age of 14 years for any kind of work.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Fixation of Minimum Wages

2418. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision with regard to the fixation of minimum wages;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decision has been taken in consultation with various State Government and recognised Trade Union Organisations;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) if answer to part (a) above is in the negative, the reasons therefor; and